

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-9, and 11-12 are pending herein with Claims 1 and 7 being independent claims. Claims 11 and 12 are new. All claims stand rejected. Responsive to each paragraph of the Office Action, the Applicant has the following remarks:

35 U.S.C. §112:

The claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended herein. Specifically, Claims 1 and 7 have been amended to correct the antecedent basis as requested. Further, the features of Fig. 5A have been introduced into Claim 1. For example, the limitation of the insulating material being shaped as a compliment or negative of the back electrode layer has been added. This shape insures that the edge of an illuminated icon is crisp.

As amended, each of the separately activated individual areas is an individual area of the display that can be illuminated. The back electrode layer is shaped so as to form a number of separate areas matching the shape of each segment to be illuminated. For example, each area of the back electrode layer will correspond in shape and size to one of the segments.

The Applicant further has introduced new Fig. 12 (found in commonly owned U.S. Patent No. 6,777,884). The Applicant asserts that the entry of this figure does not introduce new matter. Fig. 12 shows the seven-segment display referred to in Paragraph 19 of the specification. The diagram shows separately illuminable areas 9 and 10, in which area 9 is lit and area 10 is not. This figure thus clearly shows a number of

separately activatable individual areas, both of the electroluminescent material and of the back electrode layer.

Double Patenting:

The claims also were rejected as claiming the same invention as that in co-pending application serial no. 10/708,610. As the undersigned and the Examiner have discussed, these claims were entered in the co-pending application in error. The claims have now been amended such that there is no overlap herein.

CONCLUSION

The Applicant believes it has responded to each matter raised in the Office Action. Any questions may be directed to the undersigned at (404) 853-8028.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS

In the Drawings:

A new Fig. 12 is submitted herewith.